

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.413**

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TO:	The Honorable John E. Courson, Chairman, Senate Education Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Harry Bell		
DATE:	March 28, 2005	SBD:	2005332

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AUTHOR:	Senator Hayes	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	59-26-87
SUBJECT:	Pay Increase for Speech-Language Pathologists		

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ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:  
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:  
See Below

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**BILL SUMMARY:**

Senate Bill 413 would require that speech-language pathologists with the K-12 educational system who have received national certification or who are licensed by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation shall receive a pay increase of \$7,500 a year for the life of the certification or license.

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

According to the State Department of Education (SDE) there are 400 Speech-Language pathologists with certification from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) working in the K-12 system. In addition, there are 315 such professionals licensed by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) and working in the K-12 system. However, the number of such professionals with both ASHA certification and LLR licensure is unknown. Therefore, the number of individuals that would be eligible for the supplement could be as low as 315 or as high as 715. Assuming 515 total individuals qualify for the supplement the impact can be estimated at \$4,580,925 annually including related fringe benefits. This initiative could be funded with State General Funds and/or Education Improvement Act funds.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:**

None.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy  
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget